

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected pending claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-19, 21-25 and 27-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite based on the recitations of independent claims 1 and 17, but otherwise indicated that these claims were all allowable. Applicant traverses the rejection and thanks the Examiner for helpful and productive discussions, wherein withdrawal of the §112 rejection was indicated based upon the amendments submitted herewith. Without acquiescence to the rejection, in the interests of expediting prosecution and avoiding additional costs, amended claims are provided above. Applicants submit that amended claims 1 and 17 now even more clearly articulate the subject matter to which these claims refer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections to claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-19, 21-25 and 27-36 under §112 be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Conclusory Remarks

Applicant's claimed inventions are both definite and patentable over the cited art for the reasons indicated. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully asserts that all pending claims 13, 5-9, 11-19, 21-25 and 27-36 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early reconsideration and formal allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

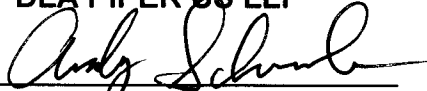
If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the address or telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1896 referencing Attorney Docket No. 348162-991180.

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Respectfully submitted,
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